



Thomas S. Cauthen, Colonel TN ANG
Vice Wing Commander
ESOH Council Chairman

Environmental Management System (EMS)

An EMS is that part of an overall management system that includes policy development, organizational structure, planning activities, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes, and resources for developing, implementing, achieving, reviewing, and maintaining the environmental program and achieving environmental goals.

Significant Aspects

1. Hazardous Waste

Objective: Reduce amount of hazardous waste generated
Target: Reduce hazardous waste by 15% by 2011

2. Solid Waste

Objective: Reduce solid waste through increased recycling
Target: Increase quantity of material recycled by 10% by 2011

Environmental Policy

1. Protecting the environment is one of our highest priorities and will be a major factor in decision-making. The 134th Air Refueling Wing located at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base is dedicated to the continued improvement of our processes to prevent and reduce waste generation. The Wing endorses the development and execution of an installation-wide EMS and a commitment to compliance with federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations. Our mission is to provide air operations and support in response to any call of the military command structure.

2. The 134th Air Refueling Wing activities include operating and maintenance of KC-135R aircraft with the support of corrosion control, aerospace ground equipment, vehicle maintenance, administrative functions, and facilities maintenance in conjunction with several tenant units. In all activities, we will seek to "SOAR":

Set Objectives. We will fulfill or exceed our environmental objectives to improve operational readiness.

Obey requirements. We will comply with environmental regulations while reducing compliance costs & liabilities.

Achieve improvement. We will continuously improve our programs and processes.

Reduce Pollution. We will reduce or eliminate the use of hazardous materials and releases of pollutants, while encouraging recycling.

3. The 134th Air Refueling Wing has achieved a respectable environmental reputation within the Air National Guard and continues to be good stewards within the local community. Through our efforts we prove that we are good neighbors and citizens within the Blount County community.

4. This environmental policy is made available to the public on the Wing's public website. Questions concerning this policy should be addressed to Capt J. David Barrett, Environmental Manager, (865) 985-4256.

Solid Waste Hierarchy

1. Preventing the creation of waste is preferable to recycling or handling the waste after it is generated;
2. Waste that cannot be prevented at the source will be recycled;
3. Waste that cannot be recycled will be treated in an environmentally safe manner, and
4. Waste that cannot be prevented, recycled, or treated in an environmentally safe manner will be sent for disposal as the last resort.

Waste Reduction Strategies

- Two-sided printing and copying;
- Use of electronic mail without printing;
- Circulate only one copy of printed material;
- Establish central document and file areas;
- Maintain and repair durable products;
- Reuse bags, containers, and other items;
- Reuse paper by making it into scratch pads, or print draft copies on the back side of used paper;
- Reuse and return corrugated boxes;
- Reuse or recycle pallets and wrapping materials;
- Reuse newspapers for padding/packaging;
- Purchase supplies in bulk;
- Establish a materials exchange among surrounding organizations;
- Use reusable containers;
- Use silverware, cups, and dishes instead of disposable items;
- Use glass, plastic, or paper cups instead of non-recyclable materials;
- Recycle all unusable metal;
- Proof, review, and edit documents on the computer screen before printing;
- Keep mailing lists electronically and keep them current to avoid duplication;